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Newsletter

Number 21

5 August 2011



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

.. to those parents who organised and supported last term's school ball fund-raiser. A special thanks to Sharon Martin, Jo Bruncker, Marise Dwight, Chris Sapwell and Jane Martin (and others) for all of your hard work in organising this event.

.. Jennie Clark for signing up to support our senior debating teams.

People of the week

.. Our school choir (and Mrs Williams our choir teacher) - best wishes for next week's performances.

.. Matthew Smith whose 100% reliability, commitment to personal improvement and all round great manners make him a great role model for us all.

.. Hayden Sloper who was selected during the holidays for the Northland Under 13 Rugby Team. Well done Hayden. A just reward for your hard work.

.. Garry Currin who was noticed using especially good manners at school this week. Well done Garry.

.. All of those children who sat this week's International Schools English Exam (and their parents for supporting them during the period of preparation).

.. James Biss and Arwyn Henare Winiata for excellent bee diagrams - scientists in the making.

.. Those children who have committed again to after school reading labs - testimony to your determination to improve.

New Virtue - TRUTHFULNESS

We are excited to announce that our virtue for the first half of this term is TRUTHFULNESS. You all know the drill ..

.. please read over the support material and discuss it with your child(ren)

.. re-visit this material from time to time

.. explain how confidence helped you to meet some challenge

.. help your child(ren) find some opportunities to practise this virtue

.. advise us of any successes so we can celebrate these through the newsletter.

School Choir

A reminder that our choir participants are required on both nights (8th and 9th) and should report to the rehearsal room by 6:40 pm wearing their Matarau School T shirt and black trousers /skirts. Parents are asked to pick their children up from the rear of the building at the end of each performance (around 8:45 pm). If you do not yet have your tickets these can be purchased for \$5.00 each from Ticketek (at Forum North). Thank you parents for your support.

A reminder that children will need to bring morning tea, lunch and a water bottle for the dress rehearsal on the morning of the 8th - please also ensure they are at school by 8:40 AM as the bus will leave around 8:50 AM (returning by 2:00 PM).

Virtues Acknowledgement

Congratulations to the following children who were selected by their classes as "Shining Examples" of the **Kindness** Virtue at the end of last term. We hope your parents feel very proud of your efforts

Rm 2	Garry Currin	Rm 2	Rylee Dodds
Rm 3	Kobi Reid	Rm 3	Jacob Pivac
Rm 4	Xavier Tautari	Rm 4	Jaxon Manley
Rm 5	Tahi-Ora Tito	Rm 5	Joshua Mains
Rm 5	Lachlan Henderson	Rm 6	Toby Murfitt
Rm 6	Joseph Jongkind	Rm 7	Sarah Jongkind
Rm 8	Eleanor Long	Rm 8	Michelle Crawford
Rm 9	Samuel Williams	Rm 9	Maycee Vercoe
Rm 10	James Mortimer	Rm 10	Daniel Dwight
Rm 11	Hayden Sloper	Rm 11	Matthew Donnelly
Rm 12	Aryana Clark	Rm 12	Scott Gregory

Coming up

8 and 9 August	Choir performances at Forum North (7:00 PM -8:45 PM)
10 August	Visit by Whangarei Boys' High School Senior Staff (1:45 pm in the staffroom)
16 August	International Schools Mathematics Exam
16 August	Meeting of Board of Trustees (parents welcome)
17 August	Whangarei Girls' High School Enrolment Interviews (at Matarau School)
18 August	Zone Cross Country at Te Horo School (pp 19/8)
22 August	School Cross Country
29 August	Regional Science Fair starts
5 September	Book Week
6 September	Visiting Author
13 September	Kamo High School Enrolment Interviews (at Matarau School)
22 September	School Talent Show
23 September	Northland Cross Country
27 September	School Photos
7 October	Final day of term 3

Other Dates of Interest to Parents of Year 8 Students

10 August	W.G.H.S. Open Night
11 August	K.H.S. Open Night (5:30 PM presentation in hall - 7:00 PM school open)
16 August	W.B.H.S. Open Night (Tours from 4:30 PM - Principal's address in hall 6:30 PM)

High school interviews

.. please note that parents are usually required to bring the following with them to interviews.

- Completed Enrolment Form
- Copy of birth certificate
- Copy of most recent Report
- Copy of Evidence of Residency and Passport Details (if not NZ Citizen)
- Copy of Evidence of Guardianship (if applicable)
- Payment of Fees (WGHS only)

Senior Debating Team

Year 7 and 8 children who expressed interest in joining our debating teams received a consent form this week. Please return this to Mr D as soon as possible. Please note the consent form covers round one events as well as subsequent rounds with dates yet to be determined.

The Mobile Ear Clinic

.. will be stationed outside the Bush Road Medical centre 8:30 to 2:30 Tuesday 16 August. No appointments necessary. Pre-schoolers welcome.

Calf Club Day 2011

Calf Club Day this year will take place **28 October**. Due to the shortness of our final term (and our desire that this should not impact adversely on our academic programmes) there will be no indoor exhibits (although these will be back in 2012). Children without animals will spend some time on the lower field with their teachers before returning to class for the rest of the morning - possibly joining us again for the prize giving and lunch. Children with calves, lambs and pets will spend the whole morning on the lower field as in earlier years.

Calf club this year will be sponsored by Alastair Rickey Decorating and Independent Glass with ribbons sponsored again by Ringrose Stockfoods.

A little more on the Calf Club front

You need to start thinking now if your child/ren want to rear calves and lambs. Calves must be born after 1st July 2011. Calves are judged on rearing and leading. Lambs are judged on rearing, leading & calling. For those who bring pets (birds, pigs, goats, fish, mice, guinea pigs etc - no dogs are allowed), a booklet will be handed out in the week of 22 September & will need to be completed and returned to the school office by Monday 3 October to allow time for the booklets to be judged prior to Calf Club Day.

If you have any queries about calves please call Steve Martin on 433 5061, or about lambs to Alison Faithfull on 433 5557. There will be further updates closer to the end of term. To assist you with selection, care and training of your pet, please check out the following website www.calfclub.co.nz.

School Cross Country

Please pencil 22 August into your diaries so you can spend a portion of our Cross Country day with us. For those new to the school this event is held on the farm opposite the school and the day breaks down roughly as follows (although these arrangements will be confirmed next week) ..

(Note : approximate times only - Presentation at 2:30 PM : ages are at 1 January)

11/12/13 year old girls	11/12/13 year old boys	9/10 year old girls	9/10 year old boys
- 12:40	- 12:50	- 1:05	- 1:15
8 year old girls	8 year old boys	Year 3 girls	Year 3 boys
- 1:30	- 1:40	- 1:50	- 2:00
Year 2 girls	Year 2 boys	Year 0/1 girls	Year 0/1 boys
- 2:10	- 2:15	- 2:20	- 2:25

You can assist by ensuring that children have a change of clothes for practice runs over the intervening period as well as a drink bottle. You might also want to schedule some practice runs over weekends.

Sponsors of this year's Cross Country are Matarau Electrical and Xtreme Shampoo.

Lunchtime Tackle Rugby

Commencing next Wednesday lunchtime 10 August, there will be tackle rugby for Yr 5- Yr 8. These games will be run by Mr D for the duration of the term (weather permitting). Please ensure children have a change of clothes and a mouthguard if they want to play.

International Schools English Exams

Please return any outstanding practice papers (and answer booklets) next week so that we can use these in future years. Test papers have been dispatched to Australia for marking and results will be announced at the end of the year (with analysis sheets sent home a little in advance of that).

What our candidates had to say ... (conclude from this what you will)

Year	Easier than I expected	About what I expected	Harder than I expected
4	1	2	2
5	1	3	
6		10	1
7		1	4
8		7	1
Total	2	23	8

International Schools Maths Exams

A reminder that test day is 16 August.

Practice papers are available from the office right up until test day. We suggest 2 or 3 more practice papers before then and then maybe a break on the weekend of 13 and 14 August. Although we have met with children several times to discuss elements of test technique (including techniques for reading questions, checking back, and managing time), please feel free to contact Kevin if you notice some enduring problems here - happy to meet with your child to work with them individually on this. Remember the final 5 or 6 questions are incredibly difficult ones.

Term Headlice Inspection

.. has been scheduled for 11 August. If you are able to assist with this term's inspection please phone Donna Cates in the office. In the meantime we suggest you check and treat where necessary.

Parents of Year 8 Students

Senior staff from Whangarei Boys High School will be visiting Matarau on Wednesday 10 August at 1.45 to speak about their school and answer any questions. All Year 8 Boys are strongly encouraged to attend, along with parents if you can make it - to be held in the staffroom. Parents of Year 7 Boys who would be interested in attending are also welcome.

Children remaining at school after bell

Please note that children remaining at school after 3:25 should be placed in After School Care unless they are travelling into town on the final (fifth) bus. The ASC programme has a special rate for users from 3:00 to 4:00 and so this is an ideal opportunity to have homework completed before they get home. Please book in to this programme by phoning 0278461724 if you know your children are at school after 3:25 - this way they will be properly supervised and gainfully employed.

Ballot for Out of Zone Students 2012

.. will likely be advertised 3 September with closing date 27 September (to be confirmed). **If you know of anyone who might be interested please ask them to contact our school office.** We are more than happy to answer any questions and to show people around the school.

After School Reading Labs - Term 3

Thank you to those who indicated they would like their children to continue after school reading labs into term 3. We have much improved the programme in a number of ways based on our term 3 experiences. The progress of children generally is most pleasing and we are getting very good feedback from their classroom teachers. This is a valuable opportunity for some of these children to close the gap with their peers and for others to simply be extended. Would be great to have full attendance from next week .. let us know if you would like to change attendance days.

The Dental Caravan

.. will finish its work in our school next week. Referrals from this point on should be made to the Hospital Clinic which can be contacted on 4700012. The caravan will visit our school again in approximately 18 months. Thanks to the therapists for their diligent service.

High Vis Vests

Thanks to Helen we have acquired some additional vests which are on sale at the school office for the very low price of \$3.00 each (various sizes).

Guitar Lessons

Vacancies available on Thursday's and Friday's after school. Contact Vangie 0211883251, 4347573 or killalea@ihug.co.nz.

Trivia Night

A meeting will be held in the staffroom on Monday 8th August @ 7.30pm for all those interested in helping out with Trivia Night.

Community Notices

Wanted - 2 Bobby calves to hand rear - not for Calf Club, Ph 4335565 ah.

Kamo Amateur Swim Club - Winter swimming is running now at the Maungatapere Valley Pool centre 4 times per week. If you would like your child/ren to get swim fit before summer think about joining KASC, cheaper than conventional swim lessons, club spirit and a pathway to swim competitively if you want to. Children must be able to swim 25 meters in both freestyle & backstroke and preferably be 8yrs or older. From early November there will be a choice to swim at the KHS Pool twice weekly & join in on race night fun. To find out more call Chris Sapwell on 433 5099 or see Helen in the school office.

Ruatangata Playcentre - has changed its session days. We are now open Tuesday and Friday 9.00am-12.00 noon. Come along and play with us, the first 3 sessions are free. For more information ph Robyn on 4335501.

Dyslexia Awareness Week - Address by Laughton King, Educational, Child & Family Psychologist, who is dyslexic, Wednesday 10th August, 7-9pm, St Johns Church, Kamo Rd, Door charge \$5 per person.

Toolbox Parenting Groups is a six session, interactive, small group parenting programme which includes a one year subscription to Parenting magazine. Tailored for specific age groups, early years (0-6), middle years (6-12) or teenage (12+), these courses are run by trained facilitators. Using videos, manuals and discussion, parents are given skills and insights which they can apply to their own situations. Courses starting from 15th August. To register or for more information contact Debbie on 433 5040 or Jill on 437 3247 email NorthlandTBX@ParentsInc.org.nz.

Welcome

To Jackie Marvin who commences a part time position at our school this term. Jackie will work predominantly in our junior school. Great to have Jackie on board!

And Finally

Some of you will recall that in earlier years we have encouraged you to put educational issues to the fore as we approach election time. In the view of our board one of the most pressing issues that faces our school is the continuation of an operational funding formula that discriminates very heavily against high decile schools, forcing us to become increasingly reliant on locally raised funds. It is our view that the funding differential between low and high decile schools is unjustifiably large - meaning, in effect, that parents of children in high decile schools pay twice for their children's education - once through their taxes and again to support programmes that would be government funded in other schools. In the last election we put two questions to each political party on your behalf 1. Do you accept that the current decile funding formula discriminates unfairly against higher decile schools 2. Is your party willing to review this formula to reach a more equitable outcome? I am sad to say that of all the political parties we received a reply only from NZ First and unfortunately they answered an entirely different question. We will again put these questions to the main political parties on your behalf and will advise you of their responses. If there are other questions you would like us to put on your behalf please let Kevin know by next Friday.

Regards

Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them

INDEPENDENT GLASS

Grant Williams
027 483 3090

School Lunches

Mondays - \$3.00 : Baked Beans or Spaghetti served with toast & grated cheese (optional) & a juice, or Chicken or Beef Cup of Noodles & a juice. Order at the office by morning tea on Monday.

Wednesdays - \$1.50 : for Sausage in a bread with sauce. Order on Wednesday mornings through the class teacher. (Note the price increase, apologies but unavoidable).

Fridays - \$4.00 : Hot Mince Pie, Jumbo Sausage Roll or Sausage Roll (with Museli Bar) and a Fruit Drink. You can swap the Fruit drink for a Flavoured Milk for \$4.50. Order by Wednesday at the office, to receive Friday. (Note no Macaroni Cheese offered this term). See order form attached to this week's newsletter if you want to bulk order for term 3.

Prize for the
best dressed
team and table

Annual Trivia Night
Fundraiser
Saturday 20 August 2011



Mr D. (Scotty) will be our fabulous quizmaster again this year
with some great new question formats

Thanks to the following companies who are sponsoring tables:

✂ Digitype
✂ Steel Building Products
✂ Crystal Klear Carpainters Ltd

If you or your company can sponsor a table (for \$100) please contact
Wendy Francis on 435 4659 or Sharon Smith on 433 8371.

Table Sponsorship gives you the option to display your company's promotional
material (banners/business cards etc) on the night, and have your company name
appear in the
school newsletter reaching over 160 families, prior to the Trivia Night.

Prize Donations: if you are unable to sponsor a table, would you be able to donate
a prize or prizes for the night? These could either be used as part of silent/live
auctions or a lucky door prize. Prizes could be anything from chocolate to wine to bathroom
products, or perhaps an old gift that's not been used?! Any queries call Wendy or Sharon, or see
Helen in the office.

Get your table groups together (4-6 people per team)

Tickets are on sale at the office - \$20 per person

This includes lots of fun, nibbles and a light supper. BYO Drinks.
Start thinking now about your costume, table groups and dusting off your thinking
caps!!

You could be surprised just what trivia you know!

Don't miss out on a fantastic night!!!

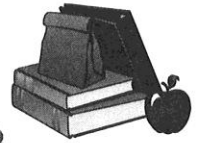
Cave's Buses will be providing a bus for transport to and from the Matarau School
Hall on the evening of the Trivia Night.

First pickup	Kamo Four Square	6.25pm
	Worsnop Rd	6.40pm
	Ruatangata Hall	6.45pm
	Ruatangata Garage	6.50pm
	Arrive at school	6.55pm

Depart 11.00pm

If you are interested in catching the bus please advise the School Office. (Gold
coin donation)

Truthfulness



What is Truthfulness?

Truthfulness is being honest in your words and actions. You don't tell lies, even to protect yourself from getting into trouble. You don't listen to gossip and prejudice. You see with your own eyes and make up your own mind about what is true. Being true to yourself means being who and what you are, without exaggerating to impress others or trying to look like something you are not. It is being yourself, your true self.

Why Practice It?

Without truthfulness, no one can tell if someone is lying or telling the truth. They cannot be trusted to tell what is a story and what really happened. They get imagination mixed up with reality. When people are truthful, they say what they mean and mean what they say. Truthfulness builds trust. People know where they stand with a truthful person.



How Do You Practice It?

Always choose to tell the truth. If someone asks your opinion, give it – tactfully! When you make a mistake, admit it rather than trying to cover it up. Instead of listening to gossip, find out the truth for yourself. Recognize the difference between fantasy and reality. If you start telling a story, stop and tell what really happened. Let people see you as you are, without trying to look more important. You are truly worthy just as you are.

The Virtues Project



What would Truthfulness look like if...

- Someone tells you that your best friend is saying mean things about you and doesn't want to be your friend anymore?
- You find yourself making excuses to cover up a mistake?
- You feel like exaggerating how well you did in a sport event?
- A friend asks you what you think of the strange outfit he is wearing?
- Someone makes a comment about all people of a different race?
- You feel like making up a fantastic story to scare your little sister?

Signs of Success

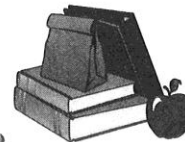
Congratulations! You are practicing Truthfulness when you...

- Speak only the truth
- Practice justice by investigating the truth for yourself
- Don't let others tell you what to think
- Can tell the difference between fact and fantasy
- Admit it when you have made a mistake
- Know you are enough – don't exaggerate or deceive to impress others

Affirmation

I am truthful. I speak the truth. I see the truth with my own eyes. I have no need to impress others or exaggerate. I am content to be my true self.

Activities with Truthfulness



True or False

Make up a list of true statements, such as "The grass is green" mixed with outrageous statements, such as "Money grows on trees." and have students check true or false boxes.

Story

Read or tell the Aesops Fable of "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" and discuss how the boy felt and what he can do to make amends. Ask "What would you do to make it right if you told a lie?"



Virtues Reflection Questions

- ❶ What it would feel like to have a good friend tell you a lie?
- ❷ What does the liar feel after telling a lie?
- ❸ Why do we sometimes try to exaggerate what we do or what we have?
- ❹ How does truthfulness help our relationships?
- ❺ What are some things you truly care about?
- ❻ What are some things you truly like to do?
- ❼ What would you do or say if someone began gossiping or saying prejudiced things in front of you?



Drawing Truthfulness

Make a collage or drawing to show several of the virtues you truly have, that describe your true self.



Poster Points

- ❶ The truth shall set us free.
- ❷ True to my word.
- ❸ True to myself.



Quotable Quotes

"This above all – to thine own self be true, and it must follow, as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man."

William Shakespeare

"Tell the truth. Do it now." Werner Erhardt

Truth is the secret of eloquence and of virtue, the basis of moral authority. It is the highest summit of art and life." H.F. Amiel

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away."

Henry David Thoreau

"Truth exists. Only lies are invented."

Georges Braque

"To love truth for truth's sake is the principal part of human perfection in this world, and the seed-plot of all other virtues." John Locke

"An exaggeration is a truth that has lost its temper." Kahlil Gibran

"Be truthful, gentle and fearless." M.K. Ghandi